

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/836,414

Examiner

Christopher Onuaku

Applicant(s)

NISHIJIMA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 7/29/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 32-63 (now renumbered 1-32, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 32-63 are allowable over the prior art of record.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 32, the invention relates to a system construction and so on for realizing a long play recording/reproducing system such as a recording/reproducing apparatus and a reproducing apparatus.

The closest references Augenbraun et al (US 5,444,575) disclose method for increasing the recording time of a digital video tape recorder (VTR) and for supporting multiple normal play modes of digital VTR operation, e.g., a standard play mode of operation and one or more long play modes of operation, and Hamaguchi et al (US 6,091,561) teach a helical scan system magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus that can record and/or reproduce analog or digital information in a long play (LP) mode in addition to a standard play (SP) mode.

However, Augenbraun et al and Hamaguchi et al fail to explicitly disclose a recording apparatus of a helical scan system, where the system further comprises a second video head for recording the video signal on the magnetic tape when a running speed of the magnetic tape is approximately 1/5 of the standard speed, wherein the

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second video head further records the video signal on the magnetic tape when a running speed of the magnetic tape is approximately $1/3$ of the standard speed.

Regarding claim 36, the invention relates to a system construction and so on for realizing a long play recording/reproducing system such as a recording/reproducing apparatus and a reproducing apparatus.

The closest references Augenbraun et al (US 5,444,575) disclose method for increasing the recording time of a digital video tape recorder (VTR) and for supporting multiple normal play modes of digital VTR operation, e.g., a standard play mode of operation and one or more long play modes of operation, and Hamaguchi et al (US 6,091,561) teach a helical scan system magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus that can record and/or reproduce analog or digital information in a long play (LP) mode in addition to a standard play (SP) mode.

However, Augenbraun et al and Hamaguchi et al fail to explicitly disclose a recording apparatus of a helical scan system, where the system further comprises a control means for controlling the first video head and the second video head so that the first video head records the video signal by a standard track pitch and the second video head records the video signal by track pitches of approximately $1/3$ and approximately $1/5$ of the standard track pitch.

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Regarding claim 40 the invention relates to a system construction and so on for realizing a long play recording/reproducing system such as a recording/reproducing apparatus and a reproducing apparatus.

The closest references Augenbraun et al (US 5,444,575) disclose method for increasing the recording time of a digital video tape recorder (VTR) and for supporting multiple normal play modes of digital VTR operation, e.g., a standard play mode of operation and one or more long play modes of operation, and Hamaguchi et al (US 6,091,561) teach a helical scan system magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus that can record and/or reproduce analog or digital information in a long play (LP) mode in addition to a standard play (SP) mode.

However, Augenbraun et al and Hamaguchi et al fail to explicitly disclose a recording apparatus of a helical scan system, where the system further comprises selection means for at least selecting between a first recording mode for recording the video signal and the audio signal at a standard track pitch by the first video head and the audio head and a second recording mode for recording the video signal and the audio signal at a track pitch of approximately $1/5$ of the standard track pitch by the second video head and the audio head, wherein the recording apparatus includes a third recording mode for recording the video signal and the audio signal at a track pitch of approximately $1/3$ of the standard track pitch by the second video head and the audio head.

Regarding claim 43, the invention relates to a system construction and so on for realizing a long play recording/reproducing system such as a recording/reproducing apparatus and a reproducing apparatus.

The closest references Augenbraun et al (US 5,444,575) disclose method for increasing the recording time of a digital video tape recorder (VTR) and for supporting multiple normal play modes of digital VTR operation, e.g., a standard play mode of operation and one or more long play modes of operation, and Hamaguchi et al (US 6,091,561) teach a helical scan system magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus that can record and/or reproduce analog or digital information in a long play (LP) mode in addition to a standard play (SP) mode.

However, Augenbraun et al and Hamaguchi et al fail to explicitly disclose a reproducing apparatus of a helical scan system, where the system further comprises a second video head for reproducing from the magnetic tape the video signal recorded when a running speed of the magnetic tape is approximately $1/5$ of the standard speed, wherein the second video head further enables reproduction from the magnetic tape of the video signal recorded when a running speed of the magnetic tape is approximately $1/3$ of the standard speed.

Regarding claim 50, the invention relates to a system construction and so on for realizing a long play recording/reproducing system such as a recording/reproducing apparatus and a reproducing apparatus.

The closest references Augenbraun et al (US 5,444,575) disclose method for increasing the recording time of a digital video tape recorder (VTR) and for supporting multiple normal play modes of digital VTR operation, e.g., a standard play mode of operation and one or more long play modes of operation, and Hamaguchi et al (US 6,091,561) teach a helical scan system magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus that can record and/or reproduce analog or digital information in a long play (LP) mode in addition to a standard play (SP) mode.

However, Augenbraun et al and Hamaguchi et al fail to explicitly disclose a reproducing apparatus of a helical scan system, where the system further comprises a control means for controlling the first video head and the second video head so that the first video head reproduces the video signal recorded by a standard track pitch and the second video head reproduces the video signal recorded by track pitches of approximately $1/3$ and approximately $1/5$ of the standard track pitch.

Regarding claim 57 the invention relates to a system construction and so on for realizing a long play recording/reproducing system such as a recording/reproducing apparatus and a reproducing apparatus.

The closest references Augenbraun et al (US 5,444,575) disclose method for increasing the recording time of a digital video tape recorder (VTR) and for supporting multiple normal play modes of digital VTR operation, e.g., a standard play mode of operation and one or more long play modes of operation, and Hamaguchi et al (US 6,091,561) teach a helical scan system magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus that

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can record and/or reproduce analog or digital information in a long play (LP) mode in addition to a standard play (SP) mode.

However, Augenbraun et al and Hamaguchi et al fail to explicitly disclose a reproducing apparatus of a helical scan system, where the system further comprises selection means for at least selecting between a first reproducing mode for reproducing the video signal and the audio signal recorded at a standard track pitch by the first video head and the audio head and a second reproducing mode for reproducing the video signal and the audio signal recorded at a track pitch of approximately $1/5$ of the standard track pitch by the second video head and the audio head, wherein the reproducing apparatus includes a third reproducing mode for reproducing the video signal and the audio signal recorded at a track pitch of approximately $1/3$ of the standard track pitch by the second video head and the audio head.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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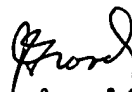
NOTE: Effective July 15, 2005, the Central Fax Number will change to 571-273-8300.

Faxes sent to the old number (703-872-9306) will be routed to the new number until September 15, 2005.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO

10/15/05


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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